

from north of Grand Junction, and breeding only in the hottest desert valleys. Tolerably common and one taken among the cedars in dry gulches along the McElmo Cañon, Montezuma County, in June, 1907, and again in July among oak thickets in Sinbad Valley and along Dolores River, in southwestern Mesa County. One also seen May 21, 1907, at Walsenburg, east of the mountains.

**Myadestes townsendi.** TOWNSEND SOLITAIRE.—A nest containing four partially incubated eggs, found July 27, 1906, at 6200 feet in the foothills a few miles southwest of Arkins, Larimer County, was nearly 2000 feet lower than the normal breeding range of the Solitaire in Colorado. The writer has, however, found this species breeding at considerably below 5000 feet in the Pine Ridge region of northwest Nebraska.<sup>1</sup>

Solitaires were abundant in the cedar country of northwest Baca County, November 26 to 29, 1907, where they doubtless winter.

**Sialia mexicana bairdi.** CHESTNUT-BACKED BLUEBIRD.—One seen in July, 1907, near Uncompahgre Butte, on the Uncompahgre Plateau, at 9000 feet, is the first record of *bairdi* in Mesa County.

**Sialia currucoides.** MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD.—Common at Springfield and Gaume's Ranch, Baca County, November 25 to 29, 1907, where reported wintering.

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**A Recent Instance of the Occurrence of the White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) in Massachusetts.**—I have an adult male White Pelican, in full nuptial plumage with well-developed 'centre-board,' which Dr. Lombard C. Jones of Malden, Massachusetts, was kind enough to secure for me some four years ago, soon after it had been skinned and mounted by Robert Bazin, a Malden taxidermist. It was taken at Sandwich, Massachusetts, possibly on the 12th, but almost certainly on the 13th, of May, 1905, by George W. Kuntz (or Kounze) of Sandwich. He gave it to Eugene Haines (also of Sandwich and familiarly known to Dr. Jones) who sent it in the flesh to Dr. Jones by whom it was received on May 17 and immediately placed in the hands of the taxidermist already mentioned. I bought it a week or two later from Mr. Haines, through Dr. Jones, and it was deposited in my collection on May 31, while the skin was still 'green' and enshrouded in its winding of cotton thread. Mr. Haines reported that Mr. Kuntz (or Kounze) had found the bird lying dead among some beach grass whence he traced its large footprints backward across the beach to the water's edge; here it must either have alighted or — as is perhaps more probable —

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<sup>1</sup> See Proc. Nebr. Ornith. Union, II, 1901, 79; also *ibid.*, III, 1902, 73.

swam ashore, before seeking the slight shelter afforded by the spot which came so near being its final resting place. These data are all attested by letters and other memoranda received by my assistant, Mr. Walter Deane, in May and June, 1905, from Dr. Jones, who appears to have had most of his information from Mr. Haines. There is a newspaper clipping, however, pasted in one of the letters and inscribed (evidently by Mr. Deane) "Boston Post, 1905," which reads as follows: — "Pelican found at Sandwich. Sandwich, May 17.— A strange sight was witnessed here on Friday, when a large pelican was found on the beach here by Mr. Kounze, who gave it to Eugene Haines. It measured 8 feet from tip to tip of its strong wings. Its bill was over 18 inches long, and the pouch underneath would hold two or three gallons. Whether it followed some other birds from its far-away home, or whether it was blown towards these shores in a hurricane, none can tell. Mr. Haines will have it mounted and placed on exhibition."

This brief note is, as far as I am able to learn, the only published record that has hitherto appeared of the bird to which it relates. It will be observed that the name of the man who found the Pelican was here printed "Kounze," not "Kuntz," as it is written by Dr. Jones; while it is necessary to point out further that the "Friday" immediately preceding May 17, 1905, fell, according to the calendar for that year, on May 12, instead of on the 13th, which Dr. Jones regards as the correct date. As he is careful to express doubt in one of his letters concerning the accuracy of his spelling of the name, that given by the Sandwich correspondent of the 'Post' is perhaps to be preferred; but with respect to the date, Dr. Jones is, without question, the better authority of the two. He has just written me (February 23, 1909): "I am sure you will make no mistake in accepting the data which I obtained at the time, in accordance with the request of Mr. Deane, for I certainly fixed the date then as accurately as possible...and the evidence I obtained was from Mr. Haines to whom the bird was given by the finder." — WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**The European Widgeon in Rhode Island.**— Almost any large collection of birds is likely to yield occasional surprises in the way of rarities which have been previously misidentified or overlooked. An instance of this happened only a few weeks ago when I found in my series of American Widgeon a peculiarly colored specimen, labeled *Anas americana*, which I do not remember to have ever noticed before. My record books show that it was purchased, with a number of other birds, in 1896, from Mr. Edward Sturtevant of Newport, Rhode Island, and that one of my assistants catalogued and relabeled it with the others, possibly when I was absent from Cambridge. Its original label, still attached to the skin, reads as follows:— "♂ *Dafila acuta*, 22, Rhode Island, Middletown 20 Sep. 1889. Taken by Edward Sturtevant, Collection of Edward Sturtevant." My assistant wrote in the Catalogue, between quotation marks:— "This is the only one I ever saw in this locality (salt marshes between 2d and 3d Beaches)." I am unable to